

REMARKS

Prior to a fee calculation and a first examination of the continuation application filed herewith, please enter the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I) Continuation Application

The application papers filed herewith are a true copy of the prior complete application filed on August 23, 2001 having Serial Number 09/939,403.

This continuation application is filed under Rule 1.53(b) and claims the benefit of the Patent Application No. 10/330,462 filed December 12, 2002 which claims the benefit of the Patent Application No. 09/939,403 filed August 23, 2001 under 35 U.S.C. 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a) which claims the benefit of Serial No. 60/313,232 and its filing date of August 16, 2001. This application further claims the benefit of those applications listed in the cross-section to related applications section as amended herein.

A clean copy of the specification, for the purpose of scanning for publication, is enclosed herewith in a "Transmittal of Amended Specification For Scanning Purposes" which includes the amendments to the specification and claims made herein.

II) Title

Applicant has amended the title to --FIBER OPTIC MODULES WITH A LEVER-ACTUATOR DE-LATCHING MECHANISM--.

III) Specification

In the Cross-Reference to Related Applications section, on page 1, line 4, the paragraph therein has been amended to

reflect the related applications for this continuation patent application.

In Brief Description of the Drawings section, a brief description of Figures 4B, 4C, and 9A-9I has been added. The brief description of Figure 4 has been corrected to be a brief description of Figure 4A. The brief description of Figures 10A-10G has also been corrected.

In the Detailed Description section, at the end of the paragraph beginning on page 42, line 15, Applicant has added a sentence describing the pivot-arm actuator 2204' of Figure 29. Applicants note that the language of the amendment, describing the pivot-arm actuator 2204' (Figure 29), is identical (with exception of the reference numbers) to the description of the pivot-arm actuator 2204 (Figure 25) found in page 41, lines 1-2.

Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the specification have not added any new matter.

IV) Claims

Applicant has claims 1-23, 38-54, 63-69, 70-80, and 81-93 without prejudice, as these claims are pending in other applications for examination on the merits or have been allowed.

Accordingly, claims 24-37, and 55-62 are now pending. Of these pending, claims 24, 55, and 61 are independent claims.

Applicant has amended claims 24 and 35-37 by this response.

Claim 24 has been amended to replace "pull-actuator" that lacks antecedent basis with --lever actuator-- that has proper antecedent basis.

Claims 35-37 have been amended to correct their preambles to be consistent with the preambles of the respective claims from which they depend.

These amendments to claims 24 and 35-37 were not made for reasons related to patentability.

In the immediate parent patent application, U.S. Serial No. 10/330,462, an Office Action was mailed on 07/21/03 rejecting the pending claims in this continuation patent application. In order to close prosecution of the allowed claims, these rejected claims were cancelled in the parent patent application, U.S. Serial No. 10/330,462. The following are the prior art claim rejections:

On page 2 of the Office Action mailed on 07/21/03, claims 55-61 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,901,263 issued to Gaio et al. ("Gaio").

On page 3 of the Office Action mailed on 07/21/03, claims 24, 28, 29, 33-37 and 62 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,901,263 issued to Gaio et al. ("Gaio").

On page 5 of the Office Action mailed on 07/21/03, claim 25 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gaio and U.S. Pat. No. 6,533,470 B2 issued to Ahrens ("Ahrens").

On page 6 of the Office Action mailed on 07/21/03, claims 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gaio and U.S. Pat. No. 5,966,487 issued to Gilliland et al. ("Gilliland").

On page 7 of the Office Action, claims 30-32 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gaio and U.S. Pat. No. 6,556,445 B2 issued to Medina ("Medina").

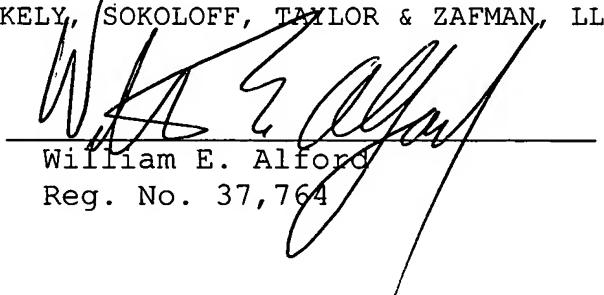
Applicant intends to respond to these rejections in a supplemental response.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned counsel by telephone at (714) 557-3800 should there be any questions.

Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

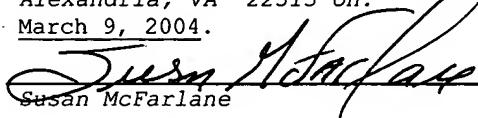
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Dated: March 9, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313 on: March 9, 2004.



Susan McFarlane 3/9/04
Date